

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 H-01 INR-05 IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SP-02 PRS-01 RSC-01 SS-15 USIE-00 USSS-00 SY-04

FAA-00 WRD-01 SCCT-01 OC-01 /079 W
----- 048343

R 020950Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4795

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5787

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, NL

SUBJECT: VC-10 HIJACKING

REF: TUNIS 7346

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE FONTEIJN, WHO ESCORTED
TERRORISTS NURI AND TANIMA TO TUNIS WHERE THEY EXCHANGED
FOR LAST OF HOSTAGES, TOLD EMBOFFS NOVEMBER 29 THAT
DUTCH INSISTENCE ON RELEASE OF DUBAI MAINTENANCE MAN
(PARA 6 REFTTEL) MAY HAVE AFFECTED DECISION OF HIJACKERS
TO REMAIN IN TUNIS.

2. FONTEIJN SAID THAT DUTCH OFFICIALS WERE LISTENING IN ON
CONVERSATIONS WITH VC-10, AND UNTIL DUBAI HOSTAGE
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RELEASED IT HAD APPEARED THAT HIJACKERS WOULD DEPART AS

SOON AS NURI AND TANIMA WERE HANDED OVER. HOWEVER, ONCE TANIMA ABOARD AND INVOLVED IN TRANSLATING, IT BECAME CLEAR TO DUTCH THAT HE UNABLE TO SATISFACTORILY HANDLE TASK. FONTEIJN SPECULATED THAT THIS LACK OF AN EFFECTIVE TRANSLATOR MAY HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN HIJACKERS' DECISION TO DEPLANE IN TUNIS.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION REGARDING WILLINGNESS OF NURI AND TANIMA TO PARTICIPATE IN EXCHANGE, FONTEIJN COMMENTED THAT DUTCH PRISON PSYCHOLOGIST HAD PREDICTED THAT TANIMA WOULD NOT AGREE LEAVE NETHERLANDS. (TANIMA HAD REFUSED JOIN NURI WHEN LATTER WAS HOLDING HOSTAGES IN SCHEVENINGEN PRISON CHAPEL SEVERAL WEEKS AGO.) HOWEVER, NURI AND TANIMA DID NOT PROTEST PROPOSAL FLY THEM TO TUNIS. FONTEIJN SAID THAT GON IN ANY CASE HAD DECIDED TAKE THEM TO TUNIS REGARDLESS OF THEIR OWN DESIRES.
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